

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY USOAS:BMOON/ARA:WDROGERS:MPH

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

L/ARA - MR. KOZAK

ARA - AMB. RYAN

S/S - FORTIZ

NSC - MR. LOW

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 170367

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, USOAS

SUBJECT: SAN JOSE CONFERENCE: NEW MEXICAN DRAFT ON CUBA

REFS: A) SAN JOSE 2966 B) STATE 169037

1. DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS THE NEW MEXICAN DRAFT ACCEPTABLE. HOWEVER, ITS EFFECT WITH RESPECT TO EXCLUSION OF CUBA FROM INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM REMAINS UNCLEAR. WE WOULD NOT WISH THE AMBIGUITY OF THE RESOLUTION IN THIS RESPECT TO LEAD TO UNPLEASANT DEBATE AT A LATER TIME. WE ASSUME THAT THE FOCUS OF THE RESOLUTION IS ON THE DIPLOMATIC AND TRADE SANCTIONS AND NOT ON CUBA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM. ACCORDINGLY, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR YOU TO ESTABLISH, IN WHATEVER FORM YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE, A LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF THE INTENT BEHIND THIS RESOLUTION. SHOULD OUR UNDERSTANDING IN THIS RESPECT BE INCORRECT, PLEASE ADVISE.
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2. USDEL IS AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCE OUR INTENTION TO VOTE FOR MEXICAN PROPOSAL IF THERE ARE AT LEAST 13 OTHER SURE VOTES BUT DEPT WOULD PREFER WE NOT CO-SPONSOR IN ORDER TO MAKE CLEAR THIS IS A LATIN INITIATIVE. IF,

HOWEVER, IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY IN ORDER TO AVOID FAILURE OF VOTE OR POSTPONEMENT TO SUBSEQUENT MEETING ELSEWHERE ADVISE US TO THAT EFFECT AND WE WILL EXAMINE THE ISSUE AGAIN.

3. WITH REGARD TO GUATEMALAN PROPOSAL, OUR PREFERENCE IS THAT FREEDOM OF ACTION BE APPROVED SIMPLY AND WITHOUT FURTHER DIVISIVE HASSLE. THIS MEANS WE DO NOT CONSIDER THAT THE ADVANTAGES OF GAINING ADDITIONAL SUPPORT BY POSTPONING THE DECISION OUTWEIGH THE DESIRABILITY OF RIDDING OURSELVES OF THIS ISSUE NOW. WE RECOGNIZE DIFFICULTIES IN TRYING TO BRING THE ISSUE TO CONCLUSION IN SAN JOSE WHILE AT THE SAME TIME KEEPING THE USDEL FROM ADOPTING TOO ACTIVIST A POSTURE. IF IT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT AT LEAST 14 VOTES CANNOT BE OTHERWISE OBTAINED, HOWEVER, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO SUPPORT GUATEMALAN INITIATIVE.

4. PRESS REPORTS OF GUATEMALAN PROPOSAL HAVE REFERRED TO POSSIBILITY THAT THE PROPOSED MEETING IN TRINIDAD & TOBAGO WOULD BE MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS. WE STRONGLY OPPOSE HOLDING MEETING AT THIS LEVEL. KISSINGER

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